

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-13 (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) A process for improving the strength and the surface of dental fillings comprising a glass ionomer cement composition, the process comprising treating said surface with a poly(dialkylsiloxane) having terminal hydroxyl groups, wherein the alkyl groups contain 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

15. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 14, wherein the poly(dialkylsiloxane) is linear or cyclic.

16. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alkyl groups of the poly(dialkylsiloxane) are methyl groups.

17. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 14, wherein the poly(dialkylsiloxane) has a kinematic viscosity in the range of about 1 to about ~~100.000~~ 100,000 cSt at 25°C.

18. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 15, wherein the poly(dialkylsiloxane) has a kinematic viscosity in the range of about 1 to about ~~100.000~~ 100,000 cSt at 25°C.

19. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 16, wherein the poly(dialkylsiloxane) has a kinematic viscosity in the range of about 1 to about ~~100.000~~ 100,000 cSt at 25°C.

20. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 14, wherein the glass ionomer cement composition is obtained by treating a fluorosilicate glass powder with:

(a) a poly(dialkylsiloxane) having terminal hydroxyl groups, wherein the alkyl groups contain 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

(b) an aqueous acid solution; and

separating the treated fluorosilicate glass powder from the aqueous acid solution.

21. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, wherein the particles of the fluorosilicate glass powder have an average size of about 0.01 to about 200 μm .

22. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, wherein the aqueous acid solution comprises an inorganic acid, an organic acid, or a combination thereof.

23. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 22, wherein the organic acid is a polymer.

24. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 20, wherein the aqueous acid solution has a pH in the range of 2 to 7.

25. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a filling composition for improving the strength and the surface of dental fillings comprising a glass ionomer cement composition, the process comprising combining a poly(dialkylsiloxane) having terminal hydroxyl groups, said alkyl groups containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms, with said dental fillings.

26. (Previously Presented) A process for improving the strength and the surface of dental fillings comprising a glass ionomer cement composition, the process comprising forming a surface of a dental filling by filling a dental cavity with a glass ionomer composition and treating the surface with a poly(dialkylsiloxane) having terminal hydroxyl groups, wherein the alkyl groups contain 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

27. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 26, further comprising curing the dental filling by ultrasound, by applying heat, or a combination thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 27, wherein the curing is performed prior to the treating step.

29. (Previously Presented) A bone cement composition comprising a poly(dialkylsiloxane) having terminal hydroxyl groups, wherein the alkyl groups contain 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

30. (Previously Presented) A coating material for a formed object implantable in bone structures, said coating material comprising a poly(dialkylsiloxane) having terminal hydroxyl groups, wherein the alkyl groups contain 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

31. (Previously Presented) The coating material according to claim 30, wherein the formed object is a bone implant.